

Amendments to Specification

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 1-2 as follows:

Threat-resistant windows and glass structures are known and can be constructed utilizing conventional glazing methods. U.S. Patent No. 5,960,606 ('606) and U.S. Patent No. ~~4,799,376~~ 4,799,346 ('376 '346) each describes laminate windows that are made to withstand severe forces. In International Publication Number WO 98/28515 (IPN '515) a glass laminate is positioned in a rigid channel in which a resilient material adjacent to the glass permits flexing movement between the resilient material and the rigid channel. Other means of holding glazing panels exist such as adhesive tapes, gaskets, putty, and the like can be used to secure panels to a frame. For example, WO 93/002269 describes the use of a stiffening member, which is laminated to a polymeric interlayer around the periphery of a glass laminate to stiffen the interlayer, which can extend beyond the edge of the glass/interlayer laminate. In another embodiment, '269 describes the use of a rigid member, which is inserted into a channel below the surface of a monolithic transparency, and extending from the transparency.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 2-3 as follows:

Windows and glass structures capable of withstanding hurricane-force winds and high force impacts are not trouble-free, however. Conventional glazing methods can require that the glazing element have some extra space in the frame to facilitate insertion or removal of the glazing element. While the additional space facilitates installation, it allows the glazing element to move in a swinging, rocking, or rotational motion within the frame. Further, it can move from side to side (transverse direction) in the frame depending upon the magnitude and direction of the force applied against the glazing element. Under conditions of severe repetitive impact and/or continuous pressure, a glass laminate can move

within the frame or structural support in such a way that there can be sufficient stress built up to eventually fracture the window and allow the laminate to be pulled out of the frame. For example, when subjected to severe hurricane force winds the flexing movement in the windows of IPN '515, wherein glass flexes within a rigid channel, can gradually pull the laminate out of the channel resulting in loss of integrity of the structure. In '346 '376, the glass held against the frame can be broken and crushed, causing a loss of structural integrity in the window/frame structure. In WO '269, inserting a stiff foreign body into as described therein can set up the structure for failure at the interface where the polymer contacts the foreign body when subjected to severe stresses.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 11, line 29 – page 12, line 27, as follows:

In one of the preferred embodiments of the present invention, depicted in Figure 2, a glazing element (61) comprises: a glass (72) /interlayer (83) /glass (72) laminate; and a first attachment clip (49). The glazing element is contacted by gaskets (127), which assist in holding the glazing element in a channel formed by a mullion (105) and a pressure plate (116). Attachment clip (94) comprises an interlocking extension (138) which has serrated teeth that are oriented in a manner to facilitate interlocking with an adjacent glazing element (16a) comprising a second glass (72) /interlayer (83) /glass (72) laminate and having a second attachment clip (49a) comprising an interlocking extension which has serrated teeth that are oriented in a manner to compliment and interlock with attachment clip (94). The attachment clips can be right and left hand complimentary brackets, for example. The movement of the glazing element within the frame channel (914) is substantially restricted by the interlocked clips. In addition, a fastener (150) holds

the pressure plate, mullion, and attachment clips together, and can be tightened or loosened to apply more or less pressure to the glazing element. Another set of gaskets (161) are used for the fastener. The design depicted in Figure 2 substantially transfers the pressure load directly to the fastener.

In another embodiment depicted in Figure 3, the glazing element shown therein is nearly identical to the glazing element of Figure 2. The difference being that in Figure 3 the gaskets (1712) have reduced thickness relative to Figure 2. The result is that there is a reduced moment arm for rotational motion of the laminate.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 22, lines 9 – 33, as follows:

Laminates of the present invention were prepared in the same manner as above with the following exception. In some of the examples a triangular-shaped 'corner-box' retaining assembly ~~as depicted in Figures 6 and 9~~ of the present application, having a wall thickness of 0.2 mm and dimensions of 50 mm x 50 mm x 71 mm (inside opening of 10 mm) was placed on each corner of the laminate after fitting pieces of ionomer sheet (2.3 mm thickness) within the inside of the box thereby 'lining' the inside. The assembly was placed into the vacuum bag and the process above was carried out to directly 'bond' the attachment to the interlayer. To better insure that the laminates were free of void areas, that is entrained bubbles, areas of non-contact between the ionomer and glass surface and that good flow and contact was made between the ionomer and the inside of the 'corner-box' all laminates were then placed in an air autoclave for further processing. The pressure and temperature inside the autoclave was increased from ambient to 135°C and 200 psi in a period of 15 minutes. This temperature and pressure was held for 30 minutes and then the temperature was decreased to 40°C within a 20-minute period whereby the pressure was lowered to ambient atmospheric pressure and the unit was removed.